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CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



M E D I C A L O F F I C E R ' S R E P O R T

For the year ended 31st December, 1946.

With compliments.

Wootton Bassett,
Wilts.

September, 1947.

To: The Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health, Housing and Sanitary condition of the district for the year 1946.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres) ...	... 46.618
Population ...	12,500 12,050
Number of inhabited houses ...	3,481
Rateable Value (at 1st April, 1946)	63,188
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	£276

Extracts from vital statistics.

Total deaths in the district during the year - 153 of which number 77 were males and 76 were females.

Rate per 1,000 ... 12.70

Brief analysis of the principal causes of death:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Tuberculosis - of the respiratory system	4	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	1
Cancer - all sites	11	10
Intra-cranial vascular lisions ("stroke")	6	10
Heart Disease	19	14
Bronchitis	4	5
Pneumonia	2	6
Nephritis	5	9
Premature Birth	2	-
Road traffic accidents	2	1
Other violent causes	2	1

It is to be noted that there were again no deaths from Infectious notifiable disease other than Pneumonia and Tuberculosis, and no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other Maternal causes. The principal causes of death were from diseases of the heart and "stroke", mainly among middle aged and elderly men and women.

Infantile Mortality

There were 7 deaths of children under 1 year of age.

Death rate ... 29.17 per 1,000 births

Births.

240 children were born during the year, 115 male and 125 female. Of this number 11 were illegitimate. Note a very marked decrease of illegitimate births.

There were 5 "Still" births

Birth rate ... 19.92

General provision of Health Services for the area.

Hospitals. Provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

A.1 Fever. The Local Authority has no Isolation Hospital of its own. All cases of Infectious Disease requiring Hospital treatment are removed to the Isolation Hospital, Gorse Hill, Swindon, under arrangement with the Swindon Borough Council.

2. Small Pox. Cases of this disease are removed to the County Small Pox Hospital at Ogbourne, near Marlborough.

xx

B. One can only again call attention to the present inadequacy of Hospital accommodation for Maternity cases, a fact which no Authority can deal with under present conditions.

C. General. There is no General Hospital in the district, medical and surgical cases requiring Hospital treatment being sent to the Victoria Hospital, Swindon, the G.W.R. Hospital and the Hospitals at Stratton St.Margaret, Savernake, Marlborough, and Cirencester.

D. The County Council Home at Marlborough continues to be of great benefit to delicate and poorly developed children in the district.

Institutional provision for unmarried Mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children is arranged for by the County Council.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

There are none in the district other than Child Welfare Clinics held by the County Council at Wootton Bassett, Cricklade and Purton.

Clinics for Maternity cases, Tuberculosis, Orthopaedic and Venereal Diseases are provided by the County Council at Swindon, and the services of a Consultant for ante-natal and Maternity cases are available, when required, at patients own homes.

Ambulance Facilities.

A. For cases of Infectious Disease are provided by the Swindon Borough Council.

Other cases. None is available in the district, but the services of an Ambulance are obtainable at all times from the Swindon Borough Council.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health - part time
Two Sanitary Inspectors - full time
One Unqualified Assistant - full time

Nursing Arrangements.

There are no arrangements made by the Local Authority for any Nursing Service. The midwifery service is provided on behalf of the County Council by the County Nursing Association through the following District Nursing Associations:

Ashton Keynes Nursing Association	1 Midwife
Cricklade	" "
Purton	" "
Lyncham	" "
Wootton Bassett - a Midwifery Service only is provided directly by the County Council.	

General Nursing is of course provided by the District Nursing Associations, but as these Nurses are Midwives they are not allowed to attend cases of Infectious Disease or especially cases of Septic Disease.

Midwives.

There are none employed or subsidised by the Local Authority, the fully qualified Midwives in the district acting under the supervision of and provided by the County Council.

Laboratory work

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are carried out for the Medical Practitioners in the district at the Greville Laboratory, Salisbury Infirmary, and the emergency medical services Laboratories at Oxford and Gorse Hill, Swindon, the cost being defrayed by the County Council.

Prevalence of Infectious and other Diseases.

There has been little Infectious Disease during the year - only 11 cases of Scarletina and 3 of Diphtheria. The difficulties of staffing the Isolation Hospital at Gorse Hill continue, and we have been fortunate in not having to send more than 10 cases there. The following table sets out the number of cases notified:

Disease	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	11	7	-
Diphtheria	3	3	-
Measles	32	-	-
Whooping Cough	49	-	-
Pneumonia	12	1	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Dysentry	2	2	-
	110	13	-

Diphtheria

Immunisation of children against this disease has been regularly carried out by the County Authorities. The number immunised under 5 years of age was 192 and between the ages of 5 and 14 years 39, a total of 231. Reinforcing injections were given to 147 children. The total number of children under 15 now immunised in the district now numbers 2033 of an estimated mid-year population of 2,770, i.e. 73.39%. This does not include a considerable number of children immunised by private practitioners.

Tuberculosis

The number of cases of this disease notified is again less than in 1944, 19 fresh cases as compared to 23 in 1945. The age incidence and type of disease are set out in the following table:

Ages	Pulmonary Tuber- culosis		Glands		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
1 - 10		1	3	-	-	1
10 - 20	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 30	4	1	1	1	-	-
40 - 50	2	1	-	1	-	-
50 - 60	-	-	-	-	-	-
30 - 40	1	2	-	-	-	-
60 - 70	1	-	-	-	-	-
	8	5	3	2	-	1

Water

80.76% of the houses in the district receive their water from water mains, 77.56% from mains owned by the Local Authority. Details of the sources of supply are set out in the report of your Sanitary Inspector.

The supply was maintained to the whole of the District during the year, consumption being heaviest during the months of January, March and July. During the latter month pumping was, on occasions, necessary for 24 hours per day. There was some shortage of supply at Purton during these months. Your Engineer wishes to stress very strongly the necessity for additional storage capacity and larger pumps to avoid failure of the supply during periods of heavy consumption following dry weather or severe frosts.

The quality of the water from all the public supplies was proved by analysis to be of a satisfactory character.

Rivers and Streams

No complaints were received as to the pollution of rivers or streams during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage

There are 3 sewerage works in the district, at Wootton Bassett, Cricklade and Purton. These works have been well maintained during the year and the effluent from all of them found to be satisfactory.

Scavenging and Salvage

Scavenging of the district continues to be carried out satisfactorily and no complaints have been received of any nuisance caused. The question of obtaining new tipping sites will shortly become acute.

Salvage

The amount of material collected during the year has again shown a considerable decrease.

Milk.

The number of Dairies on the Register is 329. During the year 1 new shed, 4 milking parlours and 9 dairies have been erected. Structural alterations were carried out in 21 cow-sheds, and water mains were connected to 21 dairies. 140 inspections were carried out, this work again being hindered by the necessity of your Inspectors doing work under the Rural Housing Survey.

Meat

The work of inspection of carcases for human consumption continues to be carried out most efficiently by your Sanitary Inspectors. This work is heavy and entailed some 286 examinations. 2 tons 8 cwts. of meat was condemned as unfit, together with 389 lbs. of other foodstuffs, including 125 tins and some 18 dozen eggs.

The percentage of slaughtered calves found to be affected by Tuberculosis was 0.47.

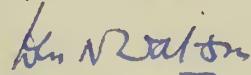
Housing

16 new houses were erected during the year, 10 of them by the Local Authority under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act. Full details of this work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors under the Act are set out in the attached report.

Rural Housing Survey.

Work on this survey has continued steadily through the year.

I have the honour to remain, Ladies and
Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Council Offices,
Wootton Bassett, Wilts.

21st July, 1947.

To: Dr. J. N. Watson,
Medical Officer of Health,
Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council.

Sir,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1946, dealing with the work carried out in the Sanitary Department.

HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(a) By the Local Authority	10
(b) By other bodies or persons	6

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses.

(i)(a) Number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	43
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	96
(ii)(a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-heading (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 and 1932 . . .	6
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	17
(iii) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation . . .	7
(iv) Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	31

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers . . .	18
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year - Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(i)(a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	4
(b) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(i) By owners	4
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil
(ii) Proceedings under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936:	
(a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made . . .	nil
(b) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	nil

(c) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which undertakings were given to make them fit for human habitation 3

(d) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which undertakings were given not to use them for human habitation after they had been vacated 4

4. Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding.

No. of cases of overcrowding discovered 6
 No. of cases of overcrowding abated 5

Overcrowding was abated by the removal of two families into Council Houses, one family into a requisitioned house, one family into an ex-army hut, and by the occupier of an overcrowded house erecting and moving into a new house.

5. Provision of new houses.

Sixteen houses were erected in the district during the year, 10 by the Local Authority and 6 by private enterprise. The houses built by the Local Authority, 8 at Hook and 2 at Bushton, were Swedish Timber Houses, and 5 of the other 6 houses were built for agricultural workers.

The Council decided to build 80 houses, and work was commenced on sites as follows:

Broad Town	18 houses
Clyffe Pypard (Bushton)	2 houses (completed)
Lydiard Tregoze (Hook)	8 "
Lydiard Millicent	6 "
Latton	9 "
Marston Meysey	6 "
Purton	31 "
Wootton Bassett	6 "

By the end of the year 19 houses were nearing completion at Purton.

6. Temporary Housing.

In September three families took possession of ex-army Nissen Huts at Cricklade, and soon afterwards requests were received from certain inhabitants of Ashton Keynes and Wootton Bassett for permission to occupy ex Army Huts situated at Cove House Camp, Ashton Keynes, and Manor Paddock Camp, Wootton Bassett. Meetings with the persons concerned were arranged, and although they were told that the huts were not considered suitable as habitations, they expressed a preference for them to their existing accommodation. Nine families occupied nine huts at Ashton Keynes, and 14 families occupied 14 huts at Wootton Bassett. The water service, already laid on to the Camps, was extended. Sanitary accommodation was provided by means of a pail closet to each hut at Ashton Keynes, and by means of one w.c. to two huts at Wootton Bassett. These huts must only be regarded as temporary accommodation, and I am sure that there will be constant expense for their maintenance.

Accommodation for six families was provided by requisitioning The Manor, Wootton Bassett.

7. Rural Housing Survey.

Work on this survey has not progressed as quickly as I wished, owing to lack of clerical assistance and to the person appointed to assist in carrying out the survey having to spend part of his time in rat baiting.

I may say that the survey is very detailed, and therefore the time taken in the examination and entering of details of each house is considerably longer than is taken in many districts.

(i) Number of working-class houses in the district	2894
(ii) Number of houses measured and entered on Inspection Records and Register (288 in 1945)	841 (2)

(iii) Number of houses measured but not yet inspected (not included in (ii) above) (274 in 1945)	341
(iv) Number of houses measured and/or inspected (562 in 1945)	1182

8

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.Nuisances.

Number of nuisances discovered	...	...	...	34
" " abated	...	...	...	28
" " inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	126

Vermicious Houses.

Number of verminous houses discovered	...	...	...	4
" " houses cleared of vermin	...	...	...	4
" " visits	...	...	...	17

One house was infested with fleas, and three houses were infested with bugs. All houses were dealt with by the Local Authority and were treated with block disinfectants and spraying with insecticide.

9.

WATER SUPPLIES

Most of the water supplied to the district is obtained from a bore-hole situated at Ashton Keynes and owned by the Council. This bore-hole reaches a depth of 300 feet and is lined to a depth of 173 feet with a mild steel lining, there being also a C.I. lining inside the mild steel lining, and the annular space grouted with cement.

A trial bore 6 inches in diameter is situated close to the bore-hole and is used in times of emergency.

Water is pumped from these bore holes to a 60,000 gallon reservoir at Cricklade and a 500,000 gallon reservoir at Hook, the Cricklade reservoir serving the parishes of Cricklade, Latton and Marston Meysey, and the Hook reservoir supplying the remainder of the district. The water is chlorinated at the Pumping Station by an automatic chloramine apparatus.

There is a smaller source of supply at Clyffe Pypard, which is obtained from an adit driven into the greensand in the hills. Water gravitates to two reservoirs having a total capacity of 35,000 gallons and thence to augment the supply from Hook reservoir. A meter operated chlorinator chlorinates this supply. A well situated at Thornhill, Broad Town, supplies 19 houses by gravitation.

A water supply owned by the United Dairies Ltd. supplies nearly all the remainder of Broad Town parish by gravitating from a well sunk in the chalk hills.

A small number of houses and farms situated at Clyffe Pypard and Thornhill are supplied by two small private water undertakings.

Piped water supplies are carried into every parish. The shortage of water did not recur at Bradenstoke, which is a part of the parish of Lyneham not possessing a piped supply. It is intended to extend the water mains to cover Bradenstoke.

None of the piped supplies used for drinking and domestic purposes have plumbo-solvent action. Chemical and bacteriological examinations of the public supplies prove the waters to be satisfactory in quality, and there has been no shortage.

Number of water samples submitted for analysis.

	Public Supplies	Private Supplies	Total
Chemical	4	-	4
Bacteriological	7	6	13

Results of analysis of water samples.

	Fit for drinking purposes	Unfit for drinking purposes.
Public supplies:		
Chemical	4	-
Bacteriological	7	-
Private supplies:		
Chemical	-	-
Bacteriological	4	2

Houses and population supplied from public water mains.

Parish	Water supplied direct to houses		Water supplied by means of stand-pipes.	
	No. of Houses	Estimated Population	No. of houses	Estimated Population
Ashton Keynes	193	668		
Broad Town	18	62		
Braydon	10	35		
Cricklade	373	1291		
Clyffe Pypard	62	215		
Latton	25	87		
Lydiard Millicent	200	692		
Lydiard Tregoze	87	301		
Lyneham	110	381		
Leigh	67	232		
Marston Meysey	28	97		
Purton	638	2209		
Tockenham	33	114		
Wootton Bassett	845	2925	11	38
	2689	9309	11	38

Houses and population supplied from private water mains

Parish	Water supplied direct to houses.		Water supplied by means of standpipes	
	No. of houses	Estimated population	No. of houses	Estimated population
Broad Town	81	281		
Clyffe Pypard	31	107		
	112	388		

Number of houses supplied from public water mains:

(i) Into or on to premises	2689
(ii) By means of standpipes	<u>11</u>
	<u>2700</u>

Estimated population supplied from public water mains:

(i) Into or on to premises	9309
(ii) By means of standpipes	<u>38</u>
	<u>9347</u>

Number of houses supplied from private water mains	112
Estimated population supplied from private water mains	388
Total number of houses supplied from water mains	2812
Total estimated population supplied from water mains	9735
Percentage of houses supplied from public water mains	77.56
" " " " " private " "	3.22
" " " " " water mains	80.78

Percentage of estimated population supplied from public water mains	77.57
Percentage of estimated population supplied from private water mains	3.22
Percentage of estimated population supplied from water mains	80.79

Estimated population of the district as on 31st December, 1946 - 12,050

Number of visits made re water supplies:	
In connection with public supplies	12
" " " private "	8
Number of water connections made to houses from public water mains:	
As the result of informal notices	8
Other than informal action	38

10

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk.

Number of Dairies on Register	337
Number of Producers on Register (included in above figure)	332
Number of inspections made	140

During the year one new cowshed, 4 milking parlours and 9 dairies were built. Structural alterations were carried out to 21 cowsheds and dairies, and 21 further farms were connected to the public water mains. The majority of the farms in the area are supplied from the Council's mains now, but there remain groups of isolated farms with inadequate or unsatisfactory water supplies. Each year these are reduced, and it may be that extensions of the mains envisaged by the Water Act may give this district the distinction of having all the farms in the area producing milk for sale, connected to the main supply. As in 1945 good liaison was maintained with the County Milk Production Officer under the National Milk Testing Scheme and the graded milk schemes. The number of inspections of farms fell, due in the main to the Rural Housing Survey and the increased meat inspection.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 to 1946.

Number of Pasteurised Plants	1
Number of Pasteurised Milk Samples taken	24
Number of Accredited Milk Producers	69
Number of T.T. Milk Producers	17
Number of Inspections of Pasteurising Plant	26
Percentage of Accredited Milk Producers in the area	20.78%
Percentage of T.T. Milk Producers in the area	5.12%

Each month two samples of pasteurised milk were taken from the plant operating in this district, and the 24 samples all passed the test. Regular inspection of this plant has been carried out at the times of sampling.

In spite of several accredited licences having been lost during the year, the percentages of accredited and T.T. farms have risen slightly, and as in the past, on each occasion that farms have been adapted for these higher types of production, complete co-operation with the County Department responsible has been maintained, which obviates overlapping and is fair to the farmer concerned.

Meat.

Slaughtering of all animals for sale for human food was carried out at a centralised Slaughterhouse under the control of the Ministry of Food. More animals than ever were killed during the year, the increase over the year 1945 amounting to 19.71%. Practically all the animals killed were calves, and I regret to report that the quality of much of the meat was not all that could be desired. Many calves were brought for slaughter at much too early an age. There were 18 calves condemned for Tuberculosis.

but owing to labels having become detached, and some skins of the tubercular calves which bear the labels having been mixed with other skins, it was possible to give information sufficient for the Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinary Surgeon to trace the dams in 7 instances only. Although to do so has meant working outside of normal hours, every animal killed during the year has been inspected. Owing to the small building and overcrowding of the slaughterhouse with carcases, the inspection of meat has often been difficult.

No. of visits to and inspections made at the Slaughterhouse 286

Animals killed and carcases examined.

	Cattle	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
No. of animals killed	-	20,231	8	7	20,246
No. of carcases examined	-	20,231	8	7	20,246

Condemned Meat.

	Cattle	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Total
<u>Condemned for Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcases		18	1		19
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		77			77
Percentage of the number inspected which was affected with Tuberculosis		0.469	12.50		0.474
<u>Condemned for Diseases other than Tuberculosis.</u>					
Whole carcases		42			42
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		990	3	3	996
Percentage of the number inspected which were affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis		5.101	37.50	42.86	5.127
<u>Condemned for all diseases</u>					
Whole carcases		60	1		61
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		1067	3	3	1073
Percentage of the number inspected which were affected with disease		5.571	50.00	42.86	5.601

Details and weights of condemned meat

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Beef			-	
Veal	1	7	0	17
Pork and Bacon		1	2	6
Mutton and Lamb			1	15
Offal	19	0	11	
	2	8	0	21

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Percentage of the total of condemned meat.
Condemned for Tuberculosis		15	0	1	31.15
Condemned for diseases other than Tuberculosis	1	13	0	20	68.85
	2	8	0	21	

I am pleased to report that the percentage of calves affected with Tuberculosis was the lowest since centralised slaughtering commenced.

Year	No. of calves killed	No. of Tubercular calves	Percentage of calves with Tuberculosis.
1940	14.095	102	0.72
1941	13.588	116	0.85
1942	15.190	104	0.68
1943	15.293	90	0.59
1944	16.702	82	0.49
1945	16.895	101	0.60
1946	20.231	95	0.47

Other Food

Examinations of food stuffs were carried out at various shops and stores, involving 22 visits and resulting in the condemnation of:

	lbs.
Butter	26
Cheese	4
Tea	25
Sultanas	80
Haricot Beans	<u>204</u> <u>339</u>
	Tins
Baked Beans	10
Peas	2
Plums	4
Mixed Vegetables	3
Jam	5
Scotch Broth	1
Date Pudding	2
Tomato Soup	3
Salmon	11
Sardines	6
Pilchards	9
Brisling	1
Chopped Ham	1
Corned Beef	1
Stewed Steak	19
Steak and Kidney	27
Evaporated Milk	20
	<u>125</u>
Eggs	216

A considerable proportion of the above-mentioned condemned food was not destroyed, it being the practice of utilising condemned food whenever possible for feeding to animals.

Suspected Food Poisoning.

Early in November a number of school children and teachers, both in the district and outside it, became ill after eating school dinners cooked and supplied from the County Council Cooking Depot at Wootton Bassett. The illness consisted of diarrhoea and abdominal pains. At a number of schools where children were supplied with dinners on that particular day, no illness was experienced. Unfortunately the information was received on the day following the illness, and no samples of food were obtainable, although a sample was obtained on the second day after the illness from scraps of food which had been taken home to feed fowls. Samples of the foodstuffs from which the dinner had been prepared were obtained, and together with the scraps of dinner were taken to the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, for analysis. Samples of excreta were obtained from all the staff at the Cooking Depot and the drivers of the food vans and submitted for analysis.

Dr. Gray of the County Medical Officer's staff, the County Sanitary Inspector and District Councils Sanitary Inspectors made exhaustive inquiries, but the cause of the outbreak was not discovered, and the analysis of the samples gave no indication as to the cause of the trouble. Practically all the sufferers had recovered on the day after or the second day after eating the meal.

11.

KNACKERS YARDS.

There is no Knacker's Yard operating in the district. The premises originally erected as a Knacker's Yard has not been licenced for some years.

12.

FACTORIES ACT.

Number of Factories on Register	...	...	...	...	62
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	15
Number of notices served	...	...	...	...	4
Number of notices complied with	...	...	...	...	4

The number of Factories is made up as follows:

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	14
Motor and cycle repair shops	...	...	...	...	12
Builders and Carpenters	...	...	...	...	8
Blacksmiths Shops	...	...	...	...	5
Engineering Shops	...	...	...	...	3
Sawmills	...	...	...	...	3
Glove Factories	...	...	...	...	2
Gas Works	...	...	...	...	2
Egg Grading Depots	...	...	...	...	2
Aircraft Maintenance	...	...	...	...	2
Laundries	...	...	...	...	1
Printing Works	...	...	...	...	1
Joinery Works	...	...	...	...	1
Ropemaking	...	...	...	...	1
Dental Manufactory	...	...	...	...	1
Condensed Milk Manufactory	...	...	...	...	1
Dried Milk Manufactory	...	...	...	...	1
Waterworks	...	...	...	...	1
Brickworks	...	...	...	...	1
					62

13.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

I am pleased to report that again this year the incidence of Infectious Disease was very low.

No. of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	7
No. of visits made in connection with Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	29
No. of Infectious cases removed to Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	...	9

14.

TENTS, VANS and SHEDS.

Two licences to use land as sites for movable dwellings were issued during the year. No complaints were received re sites for movable dwellings. One application to use land for the above purpose was refused.

No. of visits re tents, vans and sheds	9
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15.

SMOKE AND GRIT NUISANCE

The emission of smoke and grit from a Factory caused complaints to be made. The quality of the coal contributed largely to the cause of the trouble.

16.

BATHING POOL.

A water sample was taken from the disused gravel pit at the Cotswold School, Ashton Keynes, which was intended to be used as a Bathing Pool.

The Analyst would not pass the water as fit for bathing purposes, and the Headmaster of the School was notified of this fact.

17.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The more thickly populated parts of the parishes of Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett are served by sewers. All houses in these parishes within statutory distance are connected to the sewers, and with the exception of 3 houses in Cricklade, all have water closets. In those parts of the above parishes which remain unsewered, and in the remaining parishes, most of the cottage property is served by pail closets, but the larger residences and a number of cottages have water closets draining to cesspits and sewage installations. There are sewage works at Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett. The effluents from the Purton and Wootton Bassett sewage works are passed to streams after treatment of the sewage through sedimentation tanks, contact beds and humus tanks. The sewage at Cricklade Sewage Works is treated through sedimentation tanks and by broad irrigation.

18.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

All house refuse is collected weekly from dwellings in the more thickly populated parts of the parishes of Ashton Keynes, Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett. In the remainder of the district refuse other than ashes is collected once per month. The collection is made by direct labour, the "Dennis" 7 cub.yard lorry being used for the purpose.

The disposal of refuse is by tipping, the tips being situated at Cricklade and Wootton Bassett. Unfortunately, unless soil is purchased (and this is out of the question owing to expense and transport difficulties) none can be obtained for covering purposes.

A "tip dressing" is regularly used, and there has been no infestation by flies or other insects.

More tipping ground is required, but I am afraid it will be difficult to obtain.

No. of visits made re public cleansing 39

19.

SALVAGE

The regular collections of salvageable waste materials have been maintained throughout the year. Practically the whole of the district is covered, collections being carried out twice per month in the parishes of Ashton Keynes, Cricklade, Leigh, Purton and Wootton Bassett, and once per month in the remaining parishes.

I regret to report that there has again been a decrease in the amount of salvageable waste collected during the year, although the amount received from sales slightly exceeds the total for 1945. This increase is due to a sale of waste paper in January, 1946, the paper having been collected in 1945. Although extra newsprint was produced during part of 1946, there was a decrease of approximately $8\frac{1}{2}\%$ in the amount of waste paper collected, whilst the amount of bones and textiles decreased by 53% and 30% respectively.

According to the report on salvage in Wiltshire for the year 1946, for Rural Districts, the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett R.D.C. hold 1st position for sales value, and 1st, 2nd and 2nd positions for collections of rags, waste paper and bones respectively.

Year 1946.

Paper		Rags		Bones		Sales Value	
Average	Position	Average	Position	Average	Position	Average	Position
6.0	2	0.5	1	0.25	2	2.4	1

The average means the weight of materials collected in cwts. and sales in £s per month per 1,000 population.

The position for the collection of bones is the same as in 1945, but the district has advanced one place for paper and rag collections and for sales value.

Details of the amount of salvageable waste materials collected and sold during the year are as follows:

Salvageable waste materials - year ended 31st December, 1946.

	Collected during the year			Sold			Receipts from sales		
	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	tons.	cwts.	qrs.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper	38.	5.	3	45.	0.	3	303.	15.	1
Non-ferrous metals	9.	3		9.	0		6.	7.	1
Textiles	3.	4.	1	2.	11.	1	30.	9.	10
Bones	2.	6.	0	2.	6.	0	12.	11.	8
Bottles	10.	0		10.	0		1.	0.	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	£44.	15.	3	£50.	17.	0	354.	3.	8

No. of visits re salvoes 37

Refuse and Salvage Collection and Disposal Costs - year
1st April, 1946, to 31st March, 1947.

Cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal		£1382. 9. 3
Receipts - refuse and salvage		332.14.11
Cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal to General Rate Fund		£1049.14. 4
Cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal per house (actual)	s d	6/0.37 ³⁹
Cost of refuse and salvage collection and disposal per head of population (actual)	s d	1/8.91
Running cost of refuse lorry per mile		9.38 ⁶
Miles per gallon	8.8	6.48

20. RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

Infostation Order.

All premises were baited for rats by the method recommended by the Ministry of Food, viz. the laying of unpoisoned baits for three or four days, poisoned baits on the fourth or fifth days, and the picking up of uneaten baits and dead rats on the fifth or sixth days.

Owing to the inability to obtain a man to work part-time at rat destruction, the work had to be carried on by staff who should have been employed in technical work.

No. of men who visited	Waited	...	...	...	39
No. "	"	...	...	...	42
No. ..	Visits & inquiries and baiting				175

21

PETROLEUM ACT

No. of liconces issued to store petroleum	37
" " " " carbide	4
" " " " petroleum and carbide	4

At all places excepting two, petrol is stored in underground tanks.

22.

CIVIL BUILDING LICENCES.

The control of civil building has greatly added to the work of my Department, as it is necessary in practically every case to visit the premises to ascertain whether the work for which the application for a licence has been made is essential.

No. of civil building licences issued	231
Estimated cost of licenced work	£10,382
No. of visits made	254

23.

MISCELLANEOUS

Council House lettings.

All particulars and application forms for Council Houses are dealt with by my Department. The particulars given by the applicants on their forms are checked and visits made to the rooms or houses.

No. of visits re Council House lettings	346
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Other Sanitary matters.

No. of miscellaneous visits	56
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Residual Services

No. of visits re requisitioned houses, etc.	44
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Tabular summary of inspections made during the year:

Water supply	20
Drainage	14
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	9
Factories	...	...	...	15
Refuse collection and disposal	...	...	...	39
Salvage	...	...	...	37
Smoke observations	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	...	...	...	56
Nuisances	...	...	...	126
Bathing Pool	...	...	...	2
Housing	...	...	...	96
Rural Housing Survey	...	...	...	620
Council House lettings - inquiries and visits				346
Temporary housing	...	...	...	189
Overcrowding	...	...	...	2
Verminous premises	...	...	...	17
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	29
Scabies	...	...	...	1
Meat Inspection	...	...	...	286
Other food premises	...	...	...	22
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	140
Pasteurising Plants	...	...	...	24
Control of Civil Building	...	...	...	254
Residual Services	...	...	...	44
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	...	...	176
Suspected food poisoning	...	...	...	28
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	3
				<u>2596</u>

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

C.E.JAMES.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

